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SCIENCE:

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Attention is called to the "Wants" column. It is invaluable to those who use it in soliciting information or seeking new positions. The name and address of applicants should be given in full, so that answers will go direct to them. The "Exchange" column is likewise open.

REPORT ON THE MEMORIAL PRESENTED TO THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION REGARDING AN AMERICAN TABLE AT THE NAPLES ZOOLOGICAL STATION.¹

To the Biologists of the United States: I have the honor to submit the following report on the Memorial which was circulated last winter, petitioning the Smithsonian Institution to support a table at the Naples Station.

Thirteen copies of the Memorial were sent out. Twelve of these, bearing the signatures of nearly two hundred working biologists, representing about eighty universities, colleges, and scientific institutions, were returned to me, and were presented in person to Professor S. P. Langley, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

In reply to the Memorial, the following letter was received:—

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION,
WASHINGTON, April 7, 1893.

Dear Sir :

I have given careful consideration to the petitions and papers presented by you, and I have decided, in behalf of the Smithsonian Institution, to rent a table at the Naples Zoological Station for three years, and have already taken steps to secure it.

I shall be glad to be able to learn the opinions of the representative biologists of the United States in regard to the best administration of this table, and I shall esteem it a favor if, through your mediation, an advisory committee of four persons may be formed; one to be nominated by the president of the National Academy of Sciences, one by the president of the American Society of Naturalists, one by the president of the American Morphological Society, and one by the president of the Association of American Anatomists, with the understanding that I may, if need arise, feel at liberty to ask their counsel in regard to the regulations for the use of the table, or as to the merits of applicants for it.

The table will be known as The Smithsonian Table. Publications resulting from its use will bear the name of the Smithsonian Institution, and such of them as are of sufficient importance will probably be printed in the "Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge."

While the exact conditions will be determined later, I may say, subject to better advices, that it seems to me now that applications for the use of the table should be made to the secretary of the institution, who will probably desire to feel authorized to consult the above-mentioned committee concerning them, whenever, in his judgment, occasion arises for doing so.

If this meets your approval, will you kindly communicate to

¹ Scientific journals throughout the country please copy this report in full or abstract it, so that it may reach every working biologist.—C. W. S.

the president of each of the societies named my request, that he nominate a member of the advisory committee in question?

Very respectfully yours,

S. P. LANGLEY,
Secretary.

Dr. C. W. Stiles.

In accordance with this letter, I communicated with the gentlemen designated and forwarded the following nominations, made by them, to Secretary Langley:—

Major John S. Billings, M.D., U.S.A., nominated by Professor O. C. Marsh, president of the National Academy of Sciences.

E. B. Wilson, Ph.D., professor of zoölogy, Columbia University, nominated by Professor Chittenden, president of the Society of American Naturalists.

C. W. Stiles, Ph.D., zoölogist, Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, nominated by Professor C. O. Whitman, president of the American Morphological Society.

John A. Ryder, Ph.D., professor of embryology, University of Pennsylvania, nominated by Professor Allen, president of the Association of American Anatomists.

In regard to these nominations, the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution has addressed the following letters to me:—

June 5, 1893.

My dear Sir :

I am pleased to receive your letter of 2d instant, in reference to the appointment of members of the advisory committee, with whom I may feel at liberty to consult, concerning appointments for the Smithsonian Table at the Naples Zoölogical Station.

As I understand you, Doctor J. S. Billings, U.S.A., of Washington, is nominated by the National Academy of Sciences; Professor E. B. Wilson of Columbia University, New York, to represent the American Society of Naturalists; you to represent the American Morphological Society; and Professor John A. Ryder of the University of Pennsylvania to represent the Association of American Anatomists.

I am glad to accept the nomination of these gentlemen, and in each case to appoint the nominee a member of the committee; and since you do not name the chairman, I beg that you will, acting provisionally as such, make this statement to each of the gentlemen in question.

I would suggest that it would much facilitate the business in hand, if the chairman of the committee should be a resident of Washington, and be so far authorized to speak for the committee, that he need not consult its individual members on every separate application. I am, sir,

Very respectfully yours,

S. P. LANGLEY,
Secretary.

June 8, 1893.

Dear Sir :

I wish to add to my letter written two days ago the statement that I have decided to designate Dr. Billings chairman of the Advisory Committee on the Smithsonian Table at the Naples Station, and yourself as secretary.

Please communicate this fact when you write to the several members of the committee announcing their formal appointment.

Yours respectfully,

S. P. LANGLEY,
Secretary.

DR. C. W. STILES,

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington.

Professor Langley has also sent me the following announcement for publication, and a copy of the contract between the Smithsonian and Professor Dohrn, which is here published for the benefit of those who contemplate a trip to Naples.

The secretary of the Smithsonian Institution announces that the Institution has secured a table at the Naples Zoölogical Station for the use of American investigators. Applications for the use of this table will be received at any time, and should be accompanied by credentials indicating that the candidate is qualified to carry on original investigation in some field for which especial facilities are offered at the Naples Station. These credentials should be accompanied by a statement of the history of the candi-